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CAPITOL ADDRESS:

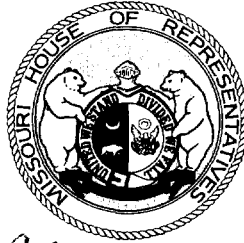
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057-97-2515-13

MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROBERT J. BEHNEN

State Representative
District 2

January 25, 2005

U.S. Dept. of Transportation
Documentary Services and Media Management Division, M-30
Room PL-401
400 7th St. SW
Washington, DC 20590

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCUMENTS

Dear Officials:

My office supports the proposals made to the U.S. Department of Transportation to maintain the EAS subsidy of Kirksville. I believe the subsidy to be important in facilitating economic growth and development in the Kirksville area.

Businesses already in Kirksville and business looking to locate in Kirksville will benefit from the continued use of the local airport. Businesses in Kirksville use the air service to travel around the country and develop, which brings more revenue to the area. This subsidy provides opportunities for the growth of small private businesses. The same growth opportunities are true for new businesses looking to establish themselves in Kirksville.

Two large institutions, A.T. Still University of Health Sciences and Truman State University, make use of the air carrier services in town. The service transports A.T. Still University staff to Kirksville from other training sites. The convenience this subsidy provides for this institution is very valuable to them and the medical community at large. For Truman State University, current students, alumni, and visiting families use the Kirksville air carrier service to attend classes, Homecoming, graduations, and other events.

Lastly, the airport subsidy makes the Kirksville airport available for private pilots to refuel and other citizens to visit Kirksville. This is another way Kirksville gains economically from the capabilities of the air carrier service. Without the granted subsidy by the Department of Transportation, Kirksville would sure lose out on all these possibilities for growth.

The Kirksville area depends on the subsidy to provide an active airport for all citizens to utilize. If you need any further assistance in support of this subsidy, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Behnen".
Robert J. Behnen
State Representative – District 2